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A.—(a) No. If the hon. Member refers to G.O. No. 87, Public, dated 26th January 1929, the effect of that Government Order was to substitute a sectional holiday on account of 'Gyarween Shareef' for that previously allowed on account of the day following (not preceding) the general holiday for 'Bakrid.'

(b) The Government's information is that there is no general fasting at 'Arfa', on account of which a holiday has never been granted.

(c) & (d) On the reports of the Collectors who ascertained Muslim opinion in their respective districts, the Government decided that the substitution referred to in the answer to clause (a) would best meet the needs of the case.

(e) The Government do not consider this to be necessary.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"It is stated in the answer that one holiday has been substituted for another. May I know the reasons which prompted them to make this substitution? It is stated that the Government consulted the Collectors of various districts. May I ask whether they consulted the Muslim Members of this Council who moved in the matter?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"There are two questions: one is why the Government had done this; it was because the question was moved in this House. My recollection is that the Government undertook to consider the question. As this affects the transaction of public business, the Collectors of the districts were consulted. As to the second question the opinion of the Muslim Members of this Council was that there should be a holiday and so it was provided for."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know if it was the opinion of the Muslim Members of this House that there should be substitution of one holiday for another?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The Government do not propose to allow an additional holiday, if that is what the hon. Member means."

[For further list of starred questions please see page 379 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Irrigation

Alleged insufficiency of water-supply to the ryots of Cuddapah taluk.

1639 Q.—Mr K. Koti Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the ryots of the villages of Gurrampad and Nazarbakpalli of Cuddapah taluk, Cuddapah district, have been complaining for some years past, to the Collectors of Cuddapah and the Government, that they have not been receiving sufficient supply of water to their wet lands and irrigable dry lands, irrigated by a channel of the K.C. Canal and that consequently the crops under them have failed;

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(b) the extent of acreage both wet and irrigable dry reported to have resulted in failure of crops for the last ten years owing to this insufficient supply of water;

(c) whether it is a fact that this insufficiency of supply of water is due to the above lands being situated at the tail end of a channel which is also to serve a number of other villages; and

(d) whether there have been any proposals to give the above villages a separate channel?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information on the points mentioned. A report has been called for.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Transfer of the buffalo-breeding station to Guntur.

*1640 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) when the buffalo-breeding station was started and where;
(b) when it was transferred to Guntur; and
(c) what were the reasons for the transfer?

A.—(a) In 1919–20 at Samalkota.
(b) In June 1923.
(c) Buffalo calves of the country type were purchased for the Samalkota station after testing the milking capacity of their dams and these animals were reared. But the animals were small in size and did not find favour in the locality as breeding stock. This lack of size was attributed to their stunted growth at the time of purchase due to the common practice of neglecting to feed bull calves. It was accordingly decided to re-start the work on better lines by purchasing milch buffalos and rearing our own calves along proper methods of feeding and at the same time by introducing Delhi blood. For this purpose, a better place was needed and the Lam Reserve in Guntur was selected as the best place.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the Government are satisfied that the result was poor?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"That is what we think."

Objects of the buffalo-breeding station.

*1641 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the object with which the buffalo-breeding station was started;
(b) the number of years it has been in existence;
(c) how many buffalo bulls have been sent out for breeding purposes; and
(d) how many have been sent or sold to ryots in the Ceded districts and in the Bellary district?